

'The Moral Bucket List'

SUBJECT	TEACHER	GRADE	DATE
Stop, Drop, and Read	Casey G. Wright	Nordonia HS	December

OVERVIEW

Stop, Drop, and Read

Done school-wide, in correspondence with We Are Nordonia Days, the entire school will complete mini-lessons on various character traits. Lesson plans and articles will be provided to staff. Mr. Wright will announce the preface of the article and purpose of the lesson, unifying our focus on a positive and relevant topic, then providing time for personal reflection. Schedule is as follows:

December 1st period – 'The Moral Bucket List'

January 2nd period – 'The Secrets to a Happy Life, From a Harvard Study'

February 3rd period – 'Social Media: Destroyer or Creator'

March 4th/5th period – 'How to Survive the College Admissions Madness'

April 6th period – 'The Joy of (Mom's) Cooking'

May 7th period – 'Today's Exhausted Superkids'

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<p><u>INTRODUCTION</u></p>	<p>Play video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1YcHoOt_dtU&t=33s</p> <p>As you know, Nordonia is one of my favorite places to be. I've been a lot of places in my life and one of the reasons I love Nordonia so much is because I know just how special of a school we have. If you'd been a part of the Nordonia Family your entire life or career, you may not realize just how good we have it here, but, if you are like me, you know what I'm talking about. This love and passion for our staff, students, and building is what led to the We Are Nordonia theme for the year – the t-shirts, the popcorn, the pole banners outside. I believe in Nordonia and want us all to appreciate, love, and feel proud of what we have.</p>
<p><u>LEARNING TARGET -</u></p>	<p><u>Learning Target #1</u> - <u>What is it about Nordonia that makes us so special?</u></p> <p>Seriously, think to yourself right now....what about this place makes us Nordonia?</p> <p><PAUSE></p> <p>There are so many answers to this question. But I will tell you for me, what makes Nordonia so special is the people I spend every day with. YOU. All of us. All of us who walk these halls and spend a part of our lives here. WE are Nordonia.</p> <p>So, as we continue to celebrate We are Nordonia Days throughout this year, we are also going to think about what makes us who we are. We are going to think about our character, our integrity, and the traits that set us apart from everyone else. Not only are we going to celebrate who we are but we are going to <u>think</u> about who we are and work at becoming the best version on ourselves. Yes, we are going to spend about 20 minutes a month, beginning today, doing a school-</p>

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	<p>wide mini-lesson to help us develop our character because even though we are already great, we can always grow.</p> <p>Let's face it, the world outside of these walls can be a pretty crazy place. We are living in a day and age connected like no other generation, and yet that same technology and access to information has also disconnected us as well. There is a national trend of insensitivity from the work place to politics. People fight with strangers on social media and justify bad behavior in the name of humor.</p> <p><u>Learning Target #2- What does it mean to be an empathetic thinker?</u></p> <p><PAUSE></p> <p>So the question becomes, how do we as a school – how do your teachers and how do I – continue to prepare you to be an empathetic thinker when the headlines on the news often highlight the opposite of that? How do we mold you to understand that what happens here in the hall with your friends – the language that is spoken, the words that are used – does impact our school climate and all of us a part of it. How do we address the fact that we are not as desensitized as we think?</p> <p><u>Learning Target #3 - All students will reflect on the article and then identify 3 ways they can develop their character at school.</u></p> <p>The answer to this, as it almost always is, is education – because when we are intentional about improvement, our growth is often quicker and more purposeful. So, our learning target for today's mini-lesson is that all students will reflect on the article and then identify 3 ways they can develop their character at school.</p>
ACTIVITY	<p>Play Video -</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INpPg9eWkXU</p> <p>To help us do this, we are going to read an article from the New York Times written by David Brooks, who is also the author of a book I read this summer called, "The Road to Character." As you read it, engage with the text, annotate it, write comments, and questions. Go ahead and begin reading now. Your teacher will follow with instructions after the text.</p> <p>(https://www.nytimes.com/2015/04/12/opinion/sunday/david-brooks-the-moral-bucket-list.html)</p> <p><PAUSE></p> <p>Class assignment:</p> <p>Respond to one of the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The author writes, "wonderful people are made, not born." Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Explain.2. Brooks identifies six experiences needed for a "the richest possible inner life." Which do you think is the most valuable and why?3. The end of the article talks about how 'stumblers' are "the people we want to be". What about being a stumbler and seeing "moments of suffering as

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	<p>pieces of a larger narrative” is helpful to understanding how this article applies to you?</p> <p>Write three ways you can develop your character at school.</p>	
FORMATIVE PRACTICE	<p>Our learning targets were to reflect on the article – did you do that?</p> <p><pause></p> <p>Can you identify three ways you can develop your character at school – did you do that?</p> <p><pause>. Excellent!</p> <p>My challenge to you is to follow-through on this reflection. If you want to talk about today’s article or lesson, I encourage you to engage with me, your teachers, and your peers about your thoughts. It is through this discussion that we continue to grow. Thank you for participating this today’s lesson!</p> <p>I hope you enjoyed this article and that your reflection of how it may apply to you is meaningful. Being mindful of our thoughts, actions, and words is important to our school as a whole. Its means we are respectful to those around us in the hallway, at lunch, on the bus, and in the classroom with our language and actions. It means that we hold ourselves to a high standard of expectation in how we perform and how we carry ourselves. We all have a role in creating our school climate and culture because WE ARE NORDONIA.</p>	